## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as shown in the following Listing of Claims.

(cancelled)
 (currently amended) A boot, comprising: an outer layer of stretchable leather; an outsole;

an oversized toe box supported on the outsole and covered by the outer layer of stretchable leather, the toe box being sized to enclose a substantial thickness of compressible cold insulating material and the corresponding portion of a user's foot without compression of the cold insulating material when the boot is worn;

a layer of compressible cold insulating material in its uncompressed state, the cold insulating material <u>located within the outer layer of stretchable leather outside the toe box and extending into the toe box and</u> having a constant thickness in the toe box area and the <u>an</u> area <u>outside the toe box and</u> adjacent to the toe box, and a surface the cold insulating material secured to the <u>lower of the an</u> underside of the toe box and the inner surface of the stretchable leather layer;

wherein the compressible cold insulating material is a high loft fiber insulation; and a lining having a first side facing the opposing surface of the cold insulating material and a second side generally facing the upper surface of a portion of a user's foot, the lining extending below the opposing surface of the cold insulating material a sufficient distance that the cold insulating material is not compressed between the toe box and the lining when the boot is worn.

- (previously presented) The boot as recited in claim 10, further comprising:
  a thinner layer of cold insulating material extending below the second side of the lining.
- 12. (cancelled)
- 13. (currently amended) A boot, comprising:

an outer layer of stretchable leather;

an outsole:

an oversized toe box supported on the outsole and covered by the outer layer of stretchable leather, the toe box being sized to enclose a substantial thickness of compressible cold insulating material and the corresponding portion of a user's foot without compression of the cold insulating material when the boot is worn;

a layer of compressible cold insulating material in its uncompressed state, the cold insulating material <u>located within the outer layer of stretchable leather outside the toe box and extending into the toe box and</u> having a constant thickness in the toe box area and the <u>an</u> area <u>outside the toe box and</u> adjacent to the toe box, and a surface the cold insulating material secured to the lower of the <u>an</u> underside of the toe box and the inner surface of the stretchable leather layer;

wherein the compressible cold insulating material is a high loft fiber insulation; and a lining having a first side facing the opposing surface of the cold insulating material and a second side generally facing the upper surface of a portion of a user's foot, the lining extending below the opposing surface of the cold insulating material a sufficient distance that the cold insulating material is not compressed between the toe box and the lining when the boot is worn;

a thinner layer of cold insulating material extending below the second side of the lining; and

a waterproof membrane extending below the thinner layer of cold insulating material.

Re. Application Number 09/977,463

## 14. (**previously presented**) A boot, comprising:

an outer layer of stretchable leather;

a layer of compressible cold insulating material in its uncompressed state within the outer layer of stretchable leather;

wherein the cold insulating material is <u>located outside the toe box and extends into the toe box and</u> having a constant thickness in the toe box <u>area</u> and the <u>an</u> area <u>outside the toe box and</u> adjacent to the toe box, <u>and a surface the cold insulating material</u> secured to the lower of the an underside of the toe box and the inner surface of the stretchable leather layer;

wherein the compressible cold insulating material is a high loft fiber insulation; an outsole;

a toe box supported on the outsole and arranged between the layer of compressible cold insulating material and the outer layer of stretchable leather such that the cold insulating material is located outside the toe box and extends into the toe box, remains in an uncompressed state when the stretchable leather is stretched over the toe box, and the thickness of the cold insulating material is constant in the toe box area and the an area outside the toe box and adjacent to the toe box area, the toe box being oversized to enclose a substantial thickness of compressible cold insulating material and the corresponding portion of a user's foot without compression of the cold insulating material either by the stretchable leather or by a user's foot when the boot is worn, the layer of cold insulating material being secured to the lower of the an underside of the toe box and the outer layer of stretchable leather; and

a lining having a first side facing the opposing surface of the cold insulating material and a second side generally facing the upper surface of a portion of the user's foot, the lining extending below the opposing surface of the cold insulating material a sufficient distance that the cold insulating material is not compressed between the toe box and the lining when the boot is worn.

- 15. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 10, wherein the layer of compressible cold insulating material has a thickness in the range of 0.75 inches and 1.00 inches.
- 16. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 15, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.

- 17. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 10, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.
- 18. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 13, wherein the layer of compressible cold insulating material has a thickness in the range of 0.75 inches and 1.00 inches.
- 19. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 18, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.
- 20. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 13, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.
- 21. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 14, wherein the layer of compressible cold insulating material has a thickness in the range of 0.75 inches and 1.00 inches.
- 22. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 21, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.
- 23. (**new**) The boot as recited in claim 14, wherein the toe box has a height in the range of 1.9 inches and 2.5 inches and a length in the range of 2.0 and 2.75 inches.